

Remarks

Claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 11 are currently pending.

Claims 1-7 and 11 have been rejected.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 5 and 6.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tzikas et al. (US 6,160,101) in view of Eichorn et al. (US 6,281,340). The Examiner also rejected claim 8 as being unpatentable over Tzikas et al. in view of Eichorn et al. and further in view of Tzikas et al. (WO 00/06652). Applicants traverse these rejections for the following reasons.

Claim 1, as currently amended, is directed to a dye mixture comprising dyes of formula (1) and (2a) as defined above. It is true Tzikas et al. disclose compounds embraced by formula (1). However, Eichorn et al. do not disclose compounds embraced by formula (2a). Rather, Eichorn et al.'s compounds are carboxamide-containing dyestuffs. *See U.S. Pat. 6,281,340* at col. 1, ls. 35-60. Furthermore, neither publication teaches or suggests a dye mixture containing the combination of dyes of formulae (1) and (2a). Because each and every limitation of amended claim 1 is not taught or fairly suggested in either publication, alone or combined, claim 1 is not rendered obvious in view of these publications and Applicants respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn.

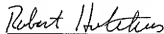
The Examiner has added Tzikas et al. (WO 00/06652) for the purpose of teaching the addition of dye of formula (8) to the dye mixture of dependant claim 8. For the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is not obvious. Therefore, all claims depending on claim

1 are also not obvious. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejection of claim
8 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the
Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman
Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

Respectfully Submitted,



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